

**Is organic seed required? Always?**

Generally yes, but there are some exceptions. Organic seed is required unless an equivalent organic variety is not commercially available. The certifying agent determines whether the operation's documentation of commercial availability is adequate to support the use of nonorganic seed. If the particular variety of organic seed is not commercially available, nonorganically produced, untreated seed may be used to produce an organic crop. If the seed variety is not commercially available in untreated form, nonorganically produced seed that has been treated with a substance on the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances may be used to produce an organic crop. Without exception, organic seed is always required for the production of edible sprouts. [Sections 205.201; 205.204.]

[e-CFR](#)